

Listing of the Claims

1-4. **(Canceled)**

5. **(Currently Amended)** A speech system, comprising:

a speech server;

an interaction object that is callable by one or more speech-enabled applications to enable a speech-enabled application to submit an interaction to the speech server;

an interaction manager configured to prioritize interactions submitted to the speech server by ordering the interactions in an interaction list, the interaction list having a front and an end, wherein an interaction at the front of the interaction list is processed before other interactions in the interaction list are processed;

wherein the interaction manager places an interaction received from a speech-enabled application at the end of the interaction list unless the interaction manager detects an indication to place the interaction received from the speech-enabled application at the front of the interaction list ahead of other interactions in the interaction list;

wherein the interaction manager places the interaction received from the speech-enabled application at the front of the list if the interaction manager detects an ~~interruption flag~~ indication to do so in the interaction received from the speech-enabled application; and

wherein the interaction manager interrupts an interaction currently processing when ~~the an~~ an interaction is placed at the front of the list received by the speech-enabled application is added to the interaction list and the application specifies that the newly added interaction is to interrupt the interaction currently being processed; and

wherein after the interrupting interaction is processed, the interrupted interaction may resume processing where the interrupted interaction left off, start over, or the interrupted interaction does not resume processing after the interrupting interaction is processed if a self-destruct flag is set in the interrupted interaction.

6-13. **(Canceled)**

14. **(Allowed)** A speech system, comprising:

a speech server;

an interaction object that is callable by one or more speech-enabled applications to enable a speech-enabled application to submit an interaction to the speech server;

an interaction manager configured to prioritize interactions submitted to the speech server by ordering the interactions in an interaction list, the interaction list having a front and an end, wherein an interaction at the front of the interaction list is processed before other interactions in the interaction list are processed;

wherein the interaction manager places an interaction received from a speech-enabled application at the end of the interaction list unless the interaction

manager detects an indication to place the interaction received from the speech-enabled application at the front of the interaction list ahead of other interactions in the interaction list;

wherein the interaction manager provides a grace period after processing a first interaction before beginning to process a second interaction; and

wherein the interaction manager is further configured to place a chained interaction at the front of the interaction list if the chained interaction is received during a grace period after processing the first interaction and if the chained interaction is submitted by the same speech-enabled application that submitted the first interaction, even if the chained interaction does not indicate that it is to be placed at the front of the list and the chained interaction is submitted after the second interaction is submitted.

15-38. (Canceled)